

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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PASS LABOR FOR SEGALL, PERSONS AND QUACKENBUSH

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ILO

SUBJECT: ILO CONFERENCE: WORKING PARTY ON STRUCTURE, SECOND SESSION

JANUARY 13-20, 1975

REF: A) GENEVA 0183; B) GENEVA 0233

1. SUMMARY. WORKING PARTY DRAFTED TENTATIVE PROPOSALS AND CONCLUSIONS AND REQUESTED GOVERNING BODY TO ARRANGE FOR FOLLOWUP SESSION (BEFORE JUNE ILO CONFERENCE) TO CONSIDER THESE PROPOSALS AND OTHER UNFINISHED BUSINESS INCLUDING US PROPOSAL ON HANDLING OF RESOLUTIONS. FINAL TEXT OF WP TENTATIVE PROPOSALS WILL BE POUCHED. WP SESSIONS HEATED AT TIMES

BUT MARKED BY SERIOUS ATTEMPT ON PART OF BOTH GROUP OF 77 AND "CONSERVA-

TIVES" TO GAUGE MUTUAL DESIRE TO NEGOTIATE ON COMPLEX ISSUES OF STRUCTURAL REFORM. WP DISCUSSION OF ARTICLE 7 FOUNDERED ON KEY ISSUES OF DEFINITION OF REGIONS AND REGIONAL REPRESENTATION ON GB WHEREAS MISSION NOT INCLINED TO PLAY DOWN DOTHER ISSUES (ARTICLE 36, ELECTION OF DG, ETC.), WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT PRIME INTEREST OF BOTH 77 AND SOVIETS IS ADVANTAGE TO THEM OF INCREASED REGIONAL REPRESENTATION IN GB. END SUMMARY.

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2. ON APPOINTMENT OF DG, WP PROPOSALS CONTAINED NOMINATING

PROCEDURE AND STATE THAT DG WILL BE APPOINTED BY, RECEIVE INSTRUCTIONS FROM, AND BE PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE TO GOVERNING BODY. WP UNABLE TO AGREE ON ROLE OF CONFERENCE, E.G., ON WHETHER GB SHOULD INVITE CONFERENCE TO ENDORSE APPOINTMENT OF DG, OR CALL UPON CONFERENCE TO ENDORSE APPOINTMENT, OR SUBMIT APPOINTMENT TO CONFERENCE FOR APPROVAL, ETC. WP DECIDED FOLLOWUP DISCUSSION WOULD REQUIRE DETERMINATION OF WHETHER VARIOUS ALTERNATIVES NEED AMENDMENT OF LIO CONSTITUTION.

3. ON COMPOSITION OF GOVERNING BODY, WP DECIDED FURTHER CONSIDERATION COULD CENTER ON ITALIAN PROPOSAL TO ENLARGE GB TO 62 MEMBERS (32 GOVERNMENT, AND 16 EACH FOR WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS). OF GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES, 10 WOULD BE STATES OF CHIEF INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE, AND 17 WOULD BE ELECTED BY CONFERENCE AS IN PRESENT PROCEDURE. REMAINING 5 GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVES WOULD BE NOMINATED BY REGIONS SO THAT EACH REGION WOULD HAVE AT LEAST 2 STATES WITH RIGHTS OF OR EQUIVALENT RIGHTS TO STATES OF CHIEF INDUSTRIAL IMPORTANCE. THERE WAS NO AGREEMENT ON NUMEROUS OPINIONS ON THE NUMBER AND DEFINITIONS OF THE REGIONS AND ON THE PROCEDURE BY WHICH REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES MIGHT BE CHOSEN. SINCE ILO CONSTITUTION DOES NOT DEFINE REGIONS, THERE WAS CONSENSUS THAT THE TENTATIVE PROPOSAL INVOLVED AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION.

4. ON ARTICLE 36, WP RECOGNIZED THAT AGREEMENT WOULD BE CONDITIONAL ON AN AGREEMENT ON ARTICLE 7. WP INTENDS TO FOCUS DISCUSSION ON PROPOSAL THAT AMENDMENTS BE CONSIDERED BY TWO CONSECUTIVE SESSIONS OF CONFERENCE, WITH VOTE ONLY AT SECOND SESSION AND TWO-THIRDS OF VOTE CAST REQUIRED FOR ADOPTION. FOR PROPOSED AMENDMENTS REFERRING TO FUNDAMENTAL PURPOSE OF ORGANIZATION OR TO CONSTITUTION PROVISIONS CONCERNING COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONS OF COLLEGIATE ORGANS OR OF CONVENTIONS OF RECOMMENDATIONS, ADOPTION WOULD REQUIRE TWO-THIRDS OF VOTES OF MEMBERS OF EACH OF THE THREE GROUPS IN THE CONFERENCE. ALL AMENDMENTS WOULD TAKE EFFECT ONLY AFTER RATIFICATION BY THREE-FOURTHS OF ILO MEMBER COUNTRIES.

5. CLEARLY WP "TENTATIVE PROPOSALS" ARE NO MORE THAN BASIS FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION IN NEXT SESSION. BY THAT TIME MEMBER GOVERNMENTS WILL HAVE HAD TIME TO CONSIDER ISSUES RAISED BY WP AND DISCUSSION MAY START OVER AGAIN FROM SQUARE ONE. WE CAN EXPECT GROUP OF 77 TO TRY TO CREATE MOMENTUM FOR CHANGE WHICH WOULD BE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HARD TO REVERSE AND FROM WHICH THEY MIGHT BENEFIT. US POSITION WOULD BE STRONGER IF (1) WE KNEW HOW FAR WE COULD GO ON ISSUES RAISED SO FAR IN WP AND (2) IF CONSERVATIVE MEMBER GOVERNMENTS PROPOSE QUID PRO QUO FOR PALATABLE CHANGES IF ANY WANTED BY GROUP OF 77. IN LATTER CATEGORY, US PROPOSAL ON RESOLUTIONS PROCEDURE IS GOOD START AND DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND DOL MIGHT ALSO WISH TO CONSIDER OTHERS, SUCH AS FORMULA FOR WEIGHTED VOTING ON BUDGET. IN FORMER CATEGORY, IN CONSIDERING FORMS OF REGIONAL REPRESENTATION

ON GOVERNING BODY THAT US MIGHT ACCEPT, OUTCOME OF JUNE ELECTIONS
IN GOVERNING BODY MAY BE A FACTOR. WE HAVE IMPRESSION THAT
SHOULD AMBITIONS OF COUNTRIES LIKE VENEZUELA, MEXICO,
ALGERIA, AND IRAN BE ACCOMMODATED, THAT MUCH OF 77 STEAM FOR
"DEMOCRATIC REFORM" WILL DISSIPATE. IN ANY CASE, CANADIANS AND
JAPANESE WERE MOST COOPERATIVE DURING WP SESSION, AND CONSULTATIONS
WITH THEM BEFORE NEXT MEETING IS DESIRABLE. ABRAMS

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